

# memorandum

DATE: October 15, 1997

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance (EH-413):Jerry DiCerbo:6-5047

SUBJECT: **UPGRADING OF EXISTING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SYSTEMS**

TO: Distribution

**PURPOSE** To provide DOE elements with information concerning an upcoming compliance milestone for the upgrading of existing petroleum and hazardous substance UST systems (i.e., tanks and ancillary piping) .

**COMPLIANCE MILESTONE** Federal standards for *existing* petroleum and hazardous substance UST systems are detailed in 40 CFR 280. Existing UST systems are defined as being installed **before** December 22, 1988, and *new* UST systems are those installed **after** December 22, 1988. Pursuant to §280.21, owners/operators of existing petroleum and hazardous substance UST systems must comply with one of the following actions by December 22, 1998:<sup>a</sup>

- î add spill, overfill, and corrosion protection to the existing UST system;
- í replace the existing UST system with a new UST system that has spill, overfill, and corrosion protection; or,
- î properly close the UST.

In addition, all existing *hazardous substance* UST systems must have leak detection systems that include secondary containment (i.e., a barrier that will allow for the monitoring and containment of leakage) as specified in §280.42(b).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** Guidance pertaining to the Federal UST program is available for viewing/ downloading via the INTERNET on the EH-41 World Wide Website at <http://tis-nt.eh.doe.gov/oepa> under the "Policy and Guidance" button followed by the "RCRA" link. Also, information from the EPA Office of Underground Storage Tanks is available via the INTERNET at <http://www.epa.gov/swerust1>.

**CONTACT** Questions concerning the information herein may be directed to Jerry DiCerbo of my staff by:

- < Calling (202) 586-5047
- < Faxing messages to (202) 586-3915
- < Communicating electronically to [gerald.dicerbo@eh.doe.gov](mailto:gerald.dicerbo@eh.doe.gov)

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<sup>a</sup>The compliance milestone and associated requirements address herein do **not** apply to UST systems containing hazardous wastes identified under Subtitle C of RCRA or to radioactive materials regulated under the Atomic Energy Act (§280.10(c)(2)).